

FEB-17-2003 MON 04:13 PM CONLEY ROSE & TAYON

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PTO/SB/50 (08-00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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February 17, 2003

Kevin L. Daffer

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL (RCE)

Subsection(b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventor Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/661,666
Filing Date	September 14, 2000
First Named Inventor	Jianmin Qiao et al.
Group Art Unit	2813
Examiner Name	T. Pham
Atty Docket Number	5298-04100
Title	METHOD OF FORMING SELF ALIGNED CONTACTS

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on January 21, 2003.
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
 - iii. Other _____.
 - b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____.
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 - b. Other _____.
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed)
 - a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5298-04100.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____.
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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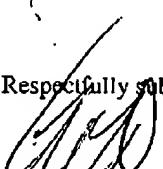
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Date February 17, 2003

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Respectfully submitted,


 Kevin L. Daffer, Reg. No. 34,146
 Attorney for Applicant(s)
 CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
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 Austin, TX 78768-4908
 (512) 476-1400

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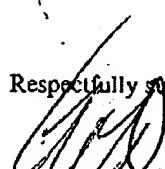
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